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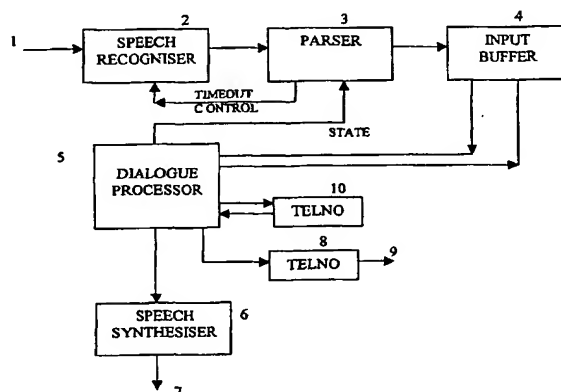
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(54) Title: **SPEECH DIALOGUE SYSTEMS WITH REPAIR FACILITY**



(57) Abstract: The system has a speech recogniser (2) for recognising speech from a user and a synthesiser (6) for replying to him and engages in a dialogue with the object of enabling the user to convey to the system a piece of information such as a telephone number. The system builds up the number in a buffer (10). Each time it receives a string of digits, it reads it back for confirmation. When a number (or part of one) is read back, it is divided into "chunks" according to certain criteria: the positions of these divisions can be recorded to be taken into account in later processing. Responses are compared with the current buffer contents to determine whether they should be interpreted as a correction, partial correction or pure continuation of the existing contents. Positions in the buffer at which pure continuations are entered are marked, to allow a "final repair" process in which, if the final result fails to match some criterion of acceptability (e.g. length) the marked positions can be reexamined to determine whether interpretation instead as correction or partial correction would meet the criterion. Algorithms are described for comparing new input with digits already received, to decide how it is to be interpreted.



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 078 887 A (OCKEL JOERG ET AL) 20 June 2000 (2000-06-20) cited in the application abstract column 5, line 4 -column 6, line 67 ---	1,18,19, 31,32, 34,50
A	EP 0 582 340 A (PHILIPS PATENTVERWALTUNG ;PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NV (NL)) 9 February 1994 (1994-02-09) abstract --- -/--	1,18,19, 31,32, 34,50

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>KIKUI G ET AL: "SIMILARITY-BASED IDENTIFICATION OF REPAIRS IN JAPANESE SPOKEN LANGUAGE"</p> <p>ICSLP 94: 1994 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPOKEN LANGUAGE PROCESSING. YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, SEPT. 18 - 22, 1994, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SPOKEN LANGUAGE PROCESSING. (ICSLP), YOKOHAMA: ASJ, JP, vol. 2, 18 September 1994 (1994-09-18), pages 915-918, XP000855399 paragraph [0004]</p> <p>-----</p>	<p>1,18,19, 31,32, 34,50</p>

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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